## CALIFORNIA.

pressed and embarrassed by this state of affair ad feeling the pressing necessity of applying sur-remedies as were in their power and circumstance account to justify, they resolved to substitute law of their own for the existing system, and to estal sh tribunals for their proper and faithful admini-

gencies of their condition, the people of the city of San Francisco elected Members to form a Legis lature, and clothed them with full powers to pass

ity followed the example.

Thus were three legislative bodies organized at two most distant being only one hundred and

coming less suited to their condition, which was entirely different from that of any of the Territories out of which the new States of the Union had

These Territories had been at first slowly and sparsely peopled by a few hunters and farmers who penetrated the wilderness, or traversed the prairies in search of game or a new home; and when thus gradually their population warranted a government was provided for them. They, how ever, had no foreign commerce, not say thing beyond the ordinary pursuits of agriculture and the various branches of business which usually accompany it, to induce immigration within their borders. Several years were required to give them sufficient population and wealth to place them in a condition to require, or enable them to support, a State Government.

Not so with California. The discovery of the vast metallic and mineral wealth in her mountain buf already attracted to her, in the space of twelmenths, more than one hundred thousand people an extensive commerce and sprung up with China, the ports of Mexico on the Pacific, Chili, and Aus

Hundreds of vessels from the Atlantic ports of the Union, freighted with our manufactures as agricultural products, and filled with our fellow cit zers, had arrived, or were on their passage counce Cape Horn; so that in the mouth of June last there were more than three hundred sea going vessels.

Calliornia has a border on the Pacific of ten decrees of latitude, and several important harbors which have never been surveyed; nor is there a busy, a beacon, a light-house, or a fertification on the whole coast.

There are no docks for the repair of national or mercantile vessels nearer than New York, a distance of some twenty thousand miles round Cape Heen.

Horn.
All these things, together with the proper regular to the quicksilver mine

California had, as it were by magic, become state of great wealth and power. One short yes had given her a commercial importance but little inferior to that of the most powerful of the of

States. She had passed her minority at a single bound, and might justly be regarded as fully ent-ted to take her pince as an equal among her sin When therefore, the reality became known

and sceina no probability of any change on the subject which divided Congress, they adopted, with most unexampled unanimity and promptitude, the only course which lay open to them—the immedi-ate formation of a State Government.

They were induced to take this step not only fo the reason that it promised the most speedy remedy growing interests of the Territory de it; and all reflecting men saw, at a glance that it ought not to be any longer, and could not nader any circumstances, be much longer post

were concerned, the embarrassing question the was shaking the Union to its center, and had

They were not unmindful of the fact, that while Northern statesmen had contended that Congress has power to prohibit Slavery in the Territories, they had always admitted that the States of the

On the other hand, Southern statesmen had al-

## TRIBUNE SUPPLEMENT. SUPPLEMENT TO THE DAILY TRIBUNE.

BY GREELEY & McELRATH.

OFFICE, TRIBUNE BUILDINGS.

NEW-YORK, SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 30, 1850. VOLUME IX.

his do secrect instructions, verbal or written in the President, or any one else, what to say a people of California on the subject of Slaver, was it ever histed or intimated to me that a expectation of the subject of Slaver.

The convention met on the 1st of September. Sit will be seen that I was not present where an election was held, nor had I anything to do will selecting or bringing out candidates; and my illnes is sufficient proof that I did not, and could not, had been disposed, exercise any influence in the covention, which was sitting one handred and their mules from where I was.

Some intimations or assertions, as I am informed have been thrown out that the South was

Some intimations or assertions, as I am informed, have been thrown out that the South was not lartly represented in the Convention. I am tool by two of the members of Congress elect from Californis, who were members of the Convention, that of the thirty-seven Delegates designated in Go. Riley's proclamation, sixteen were from siaveholding, ten from the non-slaveholding States, and eleven who were citizens of California under the Mexican Government, and that ten of those eleven came from districts below 36° 30. So that there were in the Convention twenty six of the thirty-seven members from the slaveholding States and from places south of the Missouri Compromise line. It appears, on the journals of the Convention, that the clause in the Constitution excluding Slavey passed unanimously.

In course the constant passed unanimously.

I now proceed to give the result of my inquiries observations and reflections respecting the population, climate, soil, productions—the general character of grants of land from Mexico—the extent ancondition of the public domain—the commercia resources and prospects—the mineral and metallic work to California.

wealth of California.

POPULATION.

Humboldt, to his Essay on New Spain, states to
population of Upper California, in 1802, to have co-

Converted Indians 15.562
Other Classes 1.500

Of all other Classes, at..... Total....

He expresses the opinion that this number has not varied much up to 1835, and the probability is there was very hitle meresse in the white population until the emigrants from the United States began to enter the country in 1835.

They increased, from year to year, so that is 1846. Col. Freement had little difficulty in calling to his standard some five hundred fighting men.

At the close of the war with Xexico it was sopposed that there were, including discharged volume.

posed that there were, including discharged volun-teers, from ten to fifteen thousand Americans are callormans, exclosive of converted Ind.ans, in the Territory. The immigration of American citizens in 1849, up to the 1st January last, was estimated at eighty thousand—of foreigners, twenty thou sand.

of the present year.

It is quite impossible to form anything like a accurate estimate of the number of Indians in the Certifory. Since the commencement of the wa-ind especially since the discovery of gold in the countains, their numbers at the missions and of the valleys near the coast have very much di

fact the whole race seems to be rapidly

disappearing. The remains of a vast number of vallages in all the valleys of the Sierra Nevada, and among the foot bills of that range of mountains, show that at no distant day there must have been a numerous population where there is not now an Indian to be seen. There are a few still retained in the service of the old Californians, but these do not amount to more than a few thousand in the whole Territery It is said there are large numbers of them in the mountains and valleys about the head waters of the San Joaquin, along the western base of the Sierra, and in the northern part of the Territory, and that they are hostile. A number of Americans were killed by them during the last summer in attempting to penetrate high up the rivers in search of gold; they also drove one or two parties from Trinity river. They have in several instances attacked parties coming from or returning to Oregon, in the section of country which the lamented Captain Warner was examining when he was killed.

instances attacked parties coming from or returning to Oregon, in the section of country which the amented Captain Warner was examining when to was killed.

It is quite impossible to form any estimate of the number of these mountain lodians. Some appears

be wet scason. It follows as a matter of course, that the day season commences first, and continues longest in the Southern portions of the Territory, and that the climate of the Northern part is influenced in a much less degree, by the causes which I have mentioned than any other section of the country Consequently, we find that as low down as lat-

stream of the Affantie exhales vapor when it meets in any part of its progress, a lower temperature. This current has not been surveyed, and, therefore, its source, temperature, velocity, which and course have not been securately ascertained.

It is believed by Lieut, Maury, on what he considers sufficient evidence—and no higher authority can be cited—that the current comes from the coasts of China and Japan, flows northwardly to ceasts of China and Japan, flows northwardly to the peninsula of Kamtschatks, and, making a cir-cuit to the eastward, strikes the American coast in about intude 41° or 42°. It passes thence southwardly, and finally loses itself in the tropirs. Below latitude thirty nine, and west of the toot hills of the Sterra Nevada, the forests of California are limited to some scattering groves of oak in the valleys and along the borders of the streams, and of red wood on the ridges and in the gorges of the hills—sometimes extending into the plains. Some of the hills are covered with dwarf shrubs, which may be used as fuel. With these exceptions, the whole territory presents a surface without trees or whole territory presents a surface without trees or shrubbery. It is covered, however, with various species of grass, and for many miles from the coast species of grass, and for many miles from the coast with wild eats, which, in the valleys, grow most luxuriantly. These grasses and oats mature and tipen early in the dry season, and soon cease to protect the soil from the scorching rays of the sum. As the Summer advances, the moisture in the atmosphere and the earth to a considerable depth, soon becomes exhausted, and the radiation of heat, from the extensive naked plains and hill-sides, is

very great.

The cold, dry currents of air from the northeast, after passing the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada, descend to the Pacific, and absorb the Nevada, descend to the Pacific, and absorb the moisture of the atmosphere, to a great distance from the land. The cold air from the mountains, and that which accompanies the great ocean current from the northwest, thus become united, and vast banks of fog are generated, which, when driven by the wind, has a penetrating, or cutring effect on the human skin, much more uncomfortable than would be felt in the humid atmosphere of the Atlantic, at a much lower temperature.

As the sun rises from day to day, week after

land in Winter, and see the ground frozen-covered with show, the streams with ice, and himself in a temperature many degrees coller the had ever felt before, he would probably be much surprised that people could or would live

The valleys which are situated parallel to the oast range, and those which extend eastwardly is ill directions among the hills, toward the grea-lain of the Sacramento, are of unsurpassed for

terate clevation has the adjoining plains.

This soil is so perous, that it remains perfectly unbroken by gullies, notwithstanding the great quantity of water which falls in it annually during the wet season. The land in the nerthern part of the territory on the Trinity and other rivers, and on the borders of Clear Lake, as far as it has been examined, is said to be remarkably fertile. The great valley of the Sacramento and San Jo

weak and month after mostift, in unclouded bright, mess during the dry season, and pours down is mirrors or the dry unprotected seating, as a superior of a virgo out their channels of the country, the heat season, that an under-current and than it reads the country, the heat season, that an under-current and than it reads the country of the season, that an under-current and than it reads that the country of the season is the country of the season of the country of

required therefore, there will be no wares

I am acquainted with a drover who left Calific in in December last, with the intention of brim-ing in ten thousand sheep from New Mexico. This hows that the flocks and herds east of the Rocks compains are looked to already as the source om which the markets on the Pacific are to be

The climate and soil of California are well suned to the growth of wheat, barley, rye and oats.
The temperature along the coast is too cool for the
soccessful culture of maize, as a field crop. The
tact that cats, the species which is cultivated in the
Atlantic States, are annually self-sowed and produced on all the plains and hills along the coast,
and as far inland as the sea breeze has a marked
influence on the climate, is sufficient proof that all
the careal grains may be successfully cultivated
without the aid of serrigation.

It is quite true that this country on earth if skillturby used. This does not prove, however, that it
was essentially accessory to the production of an

rery little labor. When taken from the vines in counches and suspended in a dry room, by the terms, they become partially dry, retain their factor, and remain several weeks, perhaps mouths,

NUMBER 303.

His crops in harvest time are ofter they have been gathered as his convenience may require, he has no fears that they will be in-ured by wet or unfavorable weather. Hence it is

n it. There that many who have long been accustofied to that climate, prefer it to the changeable weather east of the Rocky Mountains at Lake, or the route of the known, and valuable.

It is description to the changeable weather east of the known, and valuable groves of oak in the valleys, and of red wood on the ridges and on the cores of the hills.

Hence it is description to the changeable weather east of the most beautiful and Union.

COMMERCIAL

The commercial reson present, founded entirely

every important preliminary questions shall been settled

total purposes. There have been some infinations to that effect, but nothing is distinctly known. These missions embrace within their limits some of the most valuable lands in the Territory, and it is very important that it should be ascertained whether they belong to the Government, or may justly be claimed by individuals.

Most of the land fit for cultivation south of latitude 39°, and west of the valley of the Sacramente and Sas Josquin, is claimed under, what purport to be, grants from the Mexican Government.

On most of these grants the minerals and metals are esserved to the Government—conditions were

are reserved to the Government—conditions were coupled with many of their which have not been complied with. In others, the boundaries de acribed embrace two or three times as much land

Previous to the treaty with Mexico and the in Frevious to the treaty with alexico and the im-migration of American citizens to that country, and was not regarded as of much value, except for grazing purposes. There was room enough for all. Therefore the claimants or proprietors did not mo-lest each other, or inquire into the validity of titles. These extensive grants are described by natural boundaries, such as mountains, bays and promon-tical such in many instances, might allow of a

boundaries such as mountains, bays and promon-tories, which, in many instances, might allow of a variation of several miles in the establishment of a comer with chain and compass.

By the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, the United States purchased all the rights and interests of Mexico to and in California. This purchase not only embraced all the lands which had not been granted by Mexico, but all the reserved minerals and metals and also the revisionary rights which and metals, and also the revisionary rights which might accrue to Mexico from a want of compliance on the part of the grantees with the conditions of their grants, or a mant of perfection in the grants. It will be perceived that this is a subject of very read. their grants, or a wast of perfection in the grants. It will be perceived that this is a subject of very creat importance, not only to the people of California, but to the United States and calls for prompt and efficient action on the part of the Government. It is believed that the appointment of competent Commissioners, fully empowered to investigate these titles in a spirit of kindness toward the claimants, with power to confirm such titles as justice may seem to demand, or with instructions to report their proceedings and awards to Congress, for confirmation or rejection, will be the best and perhaps the only sansfactory mode of adjusting this complex and difficult question.

The lands in the northern part of the Territory, above the 19th and to be encylored or granted. They are supposed to embrace an area of about twenty millions of acres, a large portion of which is doubtless valuable for its timber and soil.

Comparatively few grants have been obtained in

Comparatively few grants have been obtained in the great valley of the Sacramento and San Jos

Most of the valleys are watered by streams suff-

the land.

This can be done by laying out canals and drains at suitable distances, and in proper directions, and leaving wide margins to the rivers, that they may have planty of room to increase their channels when their waters shall be confined within them by embankments.

It would be well also to regulate the price of these lands so as to meet, in some degree, the expense of draining them.

This system would, when agriculture shall be-ome a pursuit in California, make this valley one of the most beautiful and productive portions of the COMMERCIAL RESOURCES.

The commercial resources of California are, at present, founded entirely on her metallic wealth-her vast mineral treasures remaining undeveloped, and her fertile soil almost wholly neglected; and this must continue to be the case as long as labor, than in any other pursuit which can turnish the sinews of commerce.

The day is probably not distant, however, when her minorals, especially the quickssiver mines, will be extensively and profitably worked.

Gold is the product of the country, and is immediately available in an uncoined state, for all the

be exchanged for the precious metals, or other ar-ticles of value. There, gold not only supplies the medium of demestic trade, but of foreign com-

annum, from the west coast of Mexico, and, per-lups, altimately from Chili and Peru, to be assayed

for markets on the American coast of the Pacific, can by taking advantage of the south east trade winds, and "standing broad off the Cape," make the voage to San Francisco in as short a time as

This astonishing difference, in time and distance, was caused by the course of the winds, and the "guifstream" of the Pacific, mentioned in my remarks on the climate of California.

will be aided by the course of exchange.
Gold dust is worth but \$17 per ounce in Chill.
It is worth \$18 at the United States Mint. If, therefore, a merchant of Valparaiso has 10,000 counces in San Francisco, received in payment for lumber, beriey, flour, or other produce, and desires an invoice of goods from the United States or Europe, he will gain \$10,000 at the outset, by sending his gold to New York, beside saving something on the feeleds and insurance, and at least one month's in-

The value of pure gold in China is not far from \$i4 the connec. Hence, the importer of manufactures and products of India into San Francisco will remit the gold coin or dust direct to New York, for investment in sterling bills on London. These bills will be sent to London, and placed to the credit of the firm in China from whom the merchandles had been received, and who, on learning of the remittance having gone forward to their agents, will draw a six months' sight bill for the amount, which will sell in China at the rate of four shillings and fare pence or three pence per dollar.

I have a statement before me from one of the most eminent merchants and bankers of New York, who

And that the loss on the same quantity,

The Mexican law required all grants made by the Provisional Government, with few exceptions, to be confirmed by the Supreme Government. The great distance which separated them, and the use recat distance which separated them, and the use a compliance with the law so expensive and tardy, that it came to be almost disregarded.

There were other causes which led to this deglect.

Previous to the treaty with Mexico and the lime of California, as to give to the harbor of San Francisco the control of the commerce of that coan, as far as it may be connected with the west coant of America.

ocean, as far as it may be connected with the west coast of America.

Important as the commerce of the Pacific on doubtedly is, and will be, to California, it cannot now, nor will it ever compare in magnitude and value to the domestic trade between her and the older States of the Union.

Two years ago California did not probably contain more than 15,000 people. That portion of it which has since been so wonderfully peopled by American citizens, was, comparatively, without resources, and not supplied with the common comforts of shelter afforded by a forest country.

Notwithstanding the great distances emigrants have been compelled to travel to reach the Territory, more than 109,000 have overcome all difficulties and appread themselves over its hills and plains. They have been supplied from distances as great. ties and spread themselves over its hills and plains.

They have been supplied from distances as great
as they themselves have passed, with not only the
necessaries, but the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Houses have been imported from
China, Chili and the Atlantic States of the Union.

All the materials required in building cities and
towns have been added to the wants of a people so
destricts and remote from the sources.

numerous, destitute and remote from the sources of supply.

These wants will exist as long as emigration con-

of supply.

These wants will exist as long as emigration continues to flow into the country, and labor employed in collecting gold shall be more profitable than its application to agriculture, the mechanic arts, and the great variety of pursuits which are fostered and sustained in other civilized communities.

This may be shown, by mentioning the prices of a few articles. Last summer and autumn, lean ber was sold in San Francisco at \$300 to \$400-per thousand feet. At Stockton and Sacramento City, it also to \$400-per thousand feet. At Stockton and Sacramento City, that the price had fallen at San Francisco to \$75. at this price, it cannot be made at the price had fallen at San Francisco to \$45. at this price, it cannot be made where labor is from \$10 to \$15 per day, and the difficulties attending its manufacture are much greater than in the Atlantic States. Lumber can be delivered in our large lumber markets for an average of the various qualities of \$16, and freighted to San Francisco of \$24, making \$40 per thousand feet. This price would cause the manufacture of it in California to be abandoned. We may add \$20 per thousand, to meet any increase of price in the article itself, or in the freight and the result would be the same.

It is probable that the demand, for several years to come, will not be less than twenty millions of feet per annum, which, at \$40 per thousand, will

"See American Insurance Company et al. ry. Canter. 1st Peters's Supreme Court Reports, 540.

EPORT OF HON. T. BUTLER KING.

Sig. In obedience to your instructions, dated the gof April last, I proceeded to California by way of see Isthmus of Panama, and arrived at San Frances on the 4th day of June.

The steamer in which I took passage was the

roperty, and the decision of suits, involv-most important rights, and very large

ocea paid into the Custom Houses, as duties opported goods, before our revenue laws had been kiened over the country, and the people con

evident that such an organization was da

cen formed.

Those Territories had been at first slowly and

the port of San Francisco.
California has a border on the Pacific of ten de

stions of the gold region, the quicksilver mines the survey and disposition of the public lands, the adjustment of land titles, the establishment of must and of marine hospitals, required the imm

thus far deprived them of a regularly organized ivil government. They believed that, in forming a Constitution, they had a right to establish or proshit Savery, and that in their action as a State, hey would be sustained by the North and the South.

number of these mountain ladians. Some suppose

emperate zone.

The division of the year into two distinct sea

y and wet. If a native of California were to go to New Erg

rate elevation have a soil precisely like that of